



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter July 2010

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◆ Report from 2010 OH Meeting in San Antonio:

The annual NASA OH Meeting was held June 7-11, at the Hotel Contessa located in San Antonio. With over 100 attendees present and representing all NASA Centers and OH disciplines; the meeting was once again successful. The speakers representing academia, industry and government covered a variety of topics surrounding this year's theme *"Excellence, Innovation, and Leadership: Pathway to the Future."* As with every year, the annual meeting afforded the attendees the opportunity to obtain continuing education credits and maintenance points through the University of South Florida (USF). Most all of the [presentations](#) are posted on the NASA OH website. We appreciate Centers continued support of the annual meeting and recognize the active participation by attendees is a critical component of the meeting. The weeklong meeting concluded with an outstanding technical tour of the [Southwest Research Institute](#) (SRI) San Antonio facility (pictured below). Southwest staff gave presentations on their [high profile efforts](#) to determine the primary cause of the shuttle Columbia accident. SRI performed tests at their Ballistics Range using a large compressed-gas gun to launch foam material. They also presented on their current involvement with the [near-infrared spectrometers](#) on the NASA Lunar CRater Observing and Sensing Satellite ([LCROSS](#)) mission which is seeking to determine if water is present on the Moon. If you have any questions or comments about the meeting, please contact [Gail Bantugan](#) in the Agency OH Support Office.



◆ **HealthierYou Campaign:** The agency wide 28-day Walk to Wellness (WTW) Campaign commences on September 20th. Enrollment begins two weeks prior to this date, on Sept 6th. We are in the process of developing the 2011 Campaign based on the 2010 YTD Health Assessment data and the 2009 WLQ presentiseem data.

◆ **EHRS Project Update:** The next meeting of the Agency [Electronic Health Record System](#) (EHRS) Task Force is scheduled for Thursday, July 8. We will be discussing the pros and cons of the MAEN (Medgate Automatic Email Notification). The MAEN system sends notification emails and reminder emails to employees who are due for tests. Activation of the MAEN is a global system setting so we need to understand how it works and make a decision on whether its use

will be beneficial for all Centers. We will also be discussing some of the configuration decisions made and recommending some changes to simplify some of the data entry for the clinic staffs. Each Center will be asked for their input on the MAEN and system configurations recommendations so decisions can be made and system configuration updated as needed.

◆ **Mayo Clinic [EmbodyHealth](#):** The web portal is going through functional and esthetic changes in a two-phased process. Phase I is scheduled for August 12th. Phase II is tentatively scheduled for late 2010/early 2011. Details of these upgrades were shared with you in email attachments on June 25, 2010. One of the many upgrades will allow us to showcase 15 articles in the media window of the EmbodyHealth portal (rotating marquee) and the Client information module under the NASA insignia. We will be holding several tutorials on how to access the extranet for uploading articles and images to the EmbodyHealth portal. This new functionality will allow all Centers to post Center specific data.

◆ July EH ViTS to Focus on the [American Board of Industrial Hygiene](#) (ABIH) and the [CIH Exam](#):

For the July EH ViTS we have scheduled Lynn O'Donnell, Executive Director of ABIH to speak to our NASA EH community. She will be providing us an update on a variety of topics related to the ABIH, the certification exam itself, recent changes to maintaining your CIH, and common pitfalls in recertifying.



◆ **Supporting the Gulf Oil Spill Clean Up:** Certainly the Gulf oil spill has many serious ramifications, especially in the immediate Gulf region where both [NASA Michoud](#) and [NASA Stennis](#) are located. But one of the biggest concerns associated with the spill are the potential exposure issues during spill response and clean up operations. OSHA has established a very [informative website](#) on this topic and NIOSH has [Interim Guidance for Protecting](#) Deepwater Horizon Response Workers and Volunteers. This disaster is a good time to consider if our various NASA Centers are prepared to respond to any worst case potential spill from an Occupational Health perspective. Does your Center have the right personnel protective equipment (PPE), monitoring equipment, and the appropriate training and protocols in place? We can all benefit from the lessons being learned in this disaster.



◆ NASA OH Center Review Calendar:

- August 9 - 13, Kennedy Space Center

◆ Upcoming OH ViTS & Webinars:

- EHRS Task Force Webinar – July 8, 11:30-12:30 EDT
- EH ViTS – July 13, 11:00-12:00 EDT
- Fitness ViTS – August 4, 11:00-12:00 EDT
- Worker' Comp ViTS – August 12, 11:00-12:00 EDT
- Health Physics ViTS – August 25, 11:30-12:30 EDT

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